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*LBSC642 [Fall 2012]*

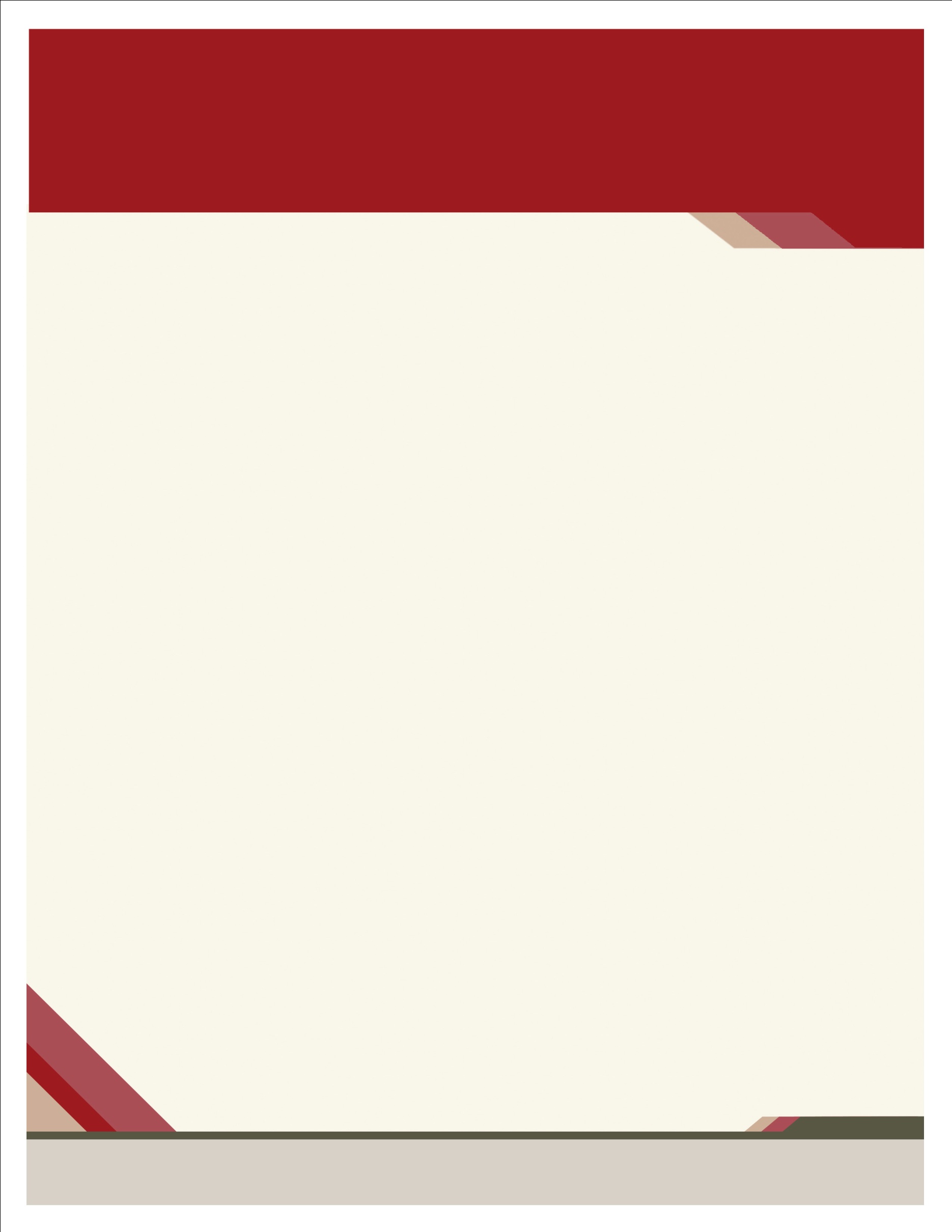
http://lbsc642.ahnjune.com/

Using Pathfinders to support research

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Some examples, tools to use with pathfinders:

<http://lorakoehler.wix.com/stalinpathfinder>

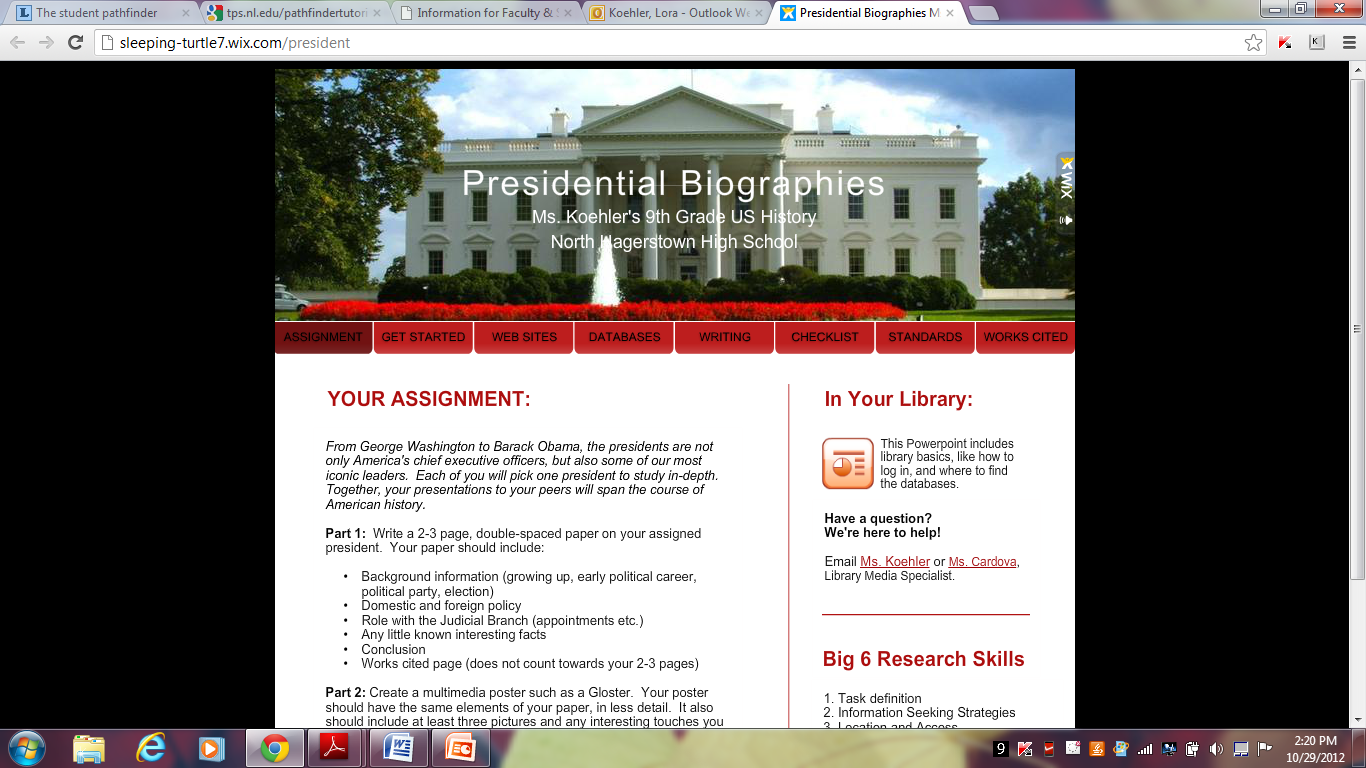
<http://mskoehlersfrankenstein.weebly.com/>

<http://sleeping-turtle7.wix.com/president>

Tools: wix, weebly, google sites, wikis, widgets, rss feeds, podcasts

What is a Pathfinder?





Advantages?

Can be tailored to specific age groups, levels, topics and 21st

century standards

Promotes collaboration between librarian and teacher

In many cases they can be accessed at home

Provides students a “path” through the massive

information highway

Helps students understand and mange the research

process

Can directly link appropriate sources with a URL making

everything self contained

Guides students in determining the validity and relevance of

different sources

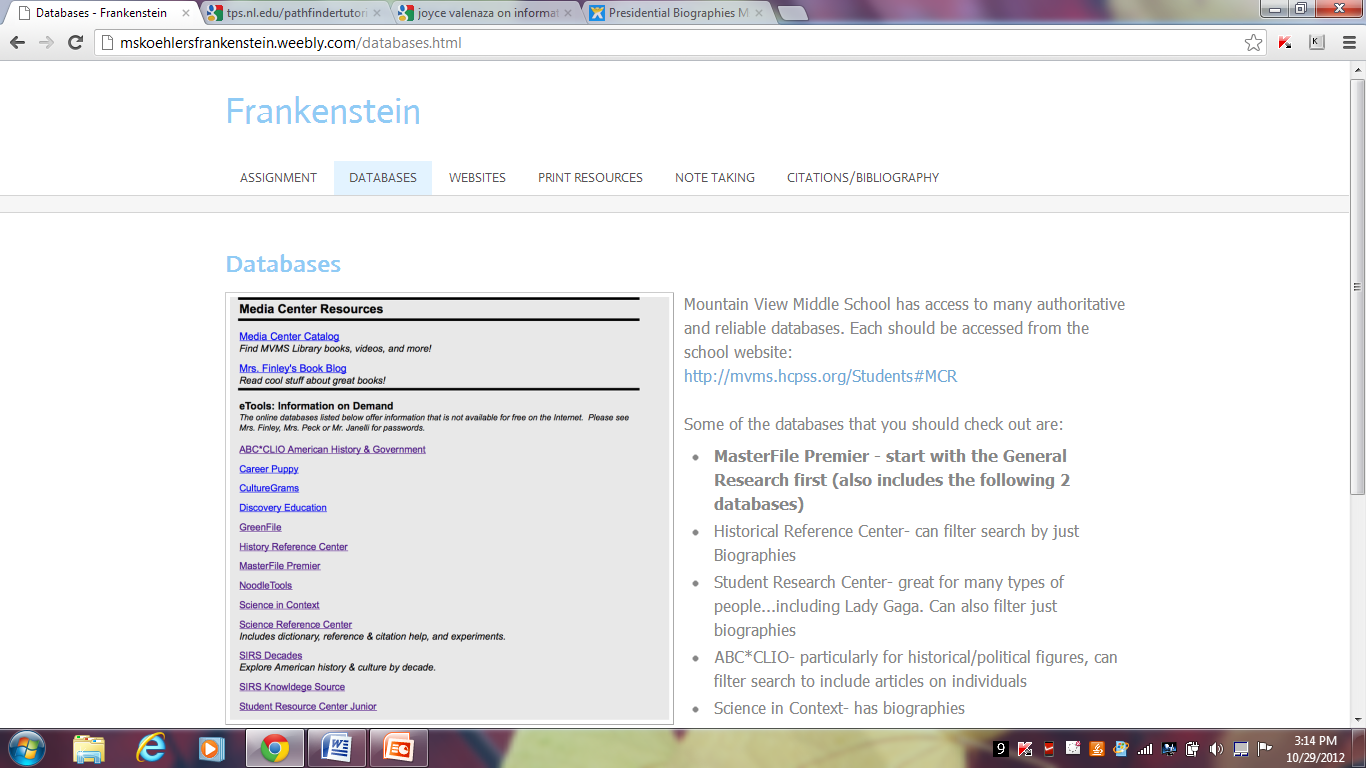
A Pathfinder is designed by the librarian, in collaboration with teachers, to guide student research on specific topics.

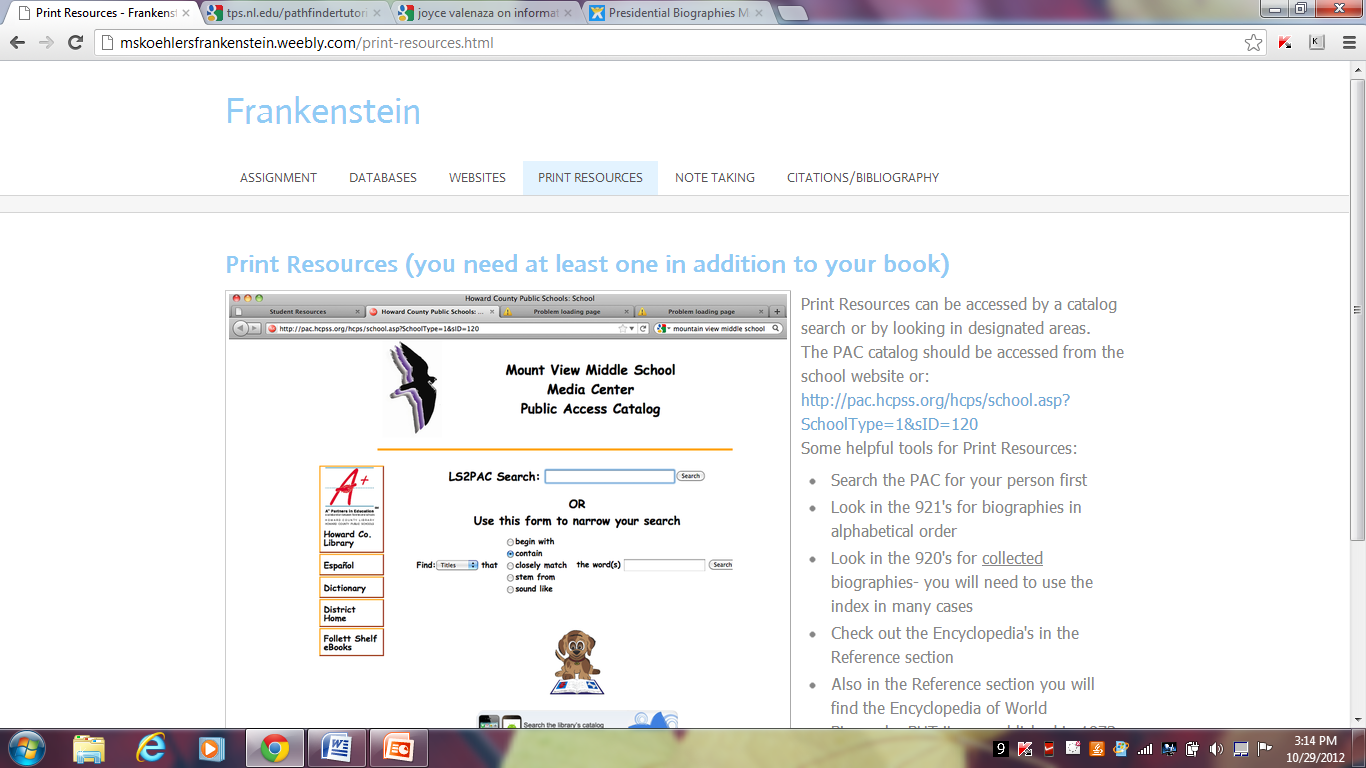
The pathfinder will provide students with instructions on locating/using a selection of suitable resources online and in the library.

Pathfinders are created in order to aid students in meeting the outcomes as determined by the teacher and librarian.

They can provide the scaffolding necessary when teaching search skills, evaluation of sources, citation techniques, how to navigate through the information world and many other tailored 21st century research skills.

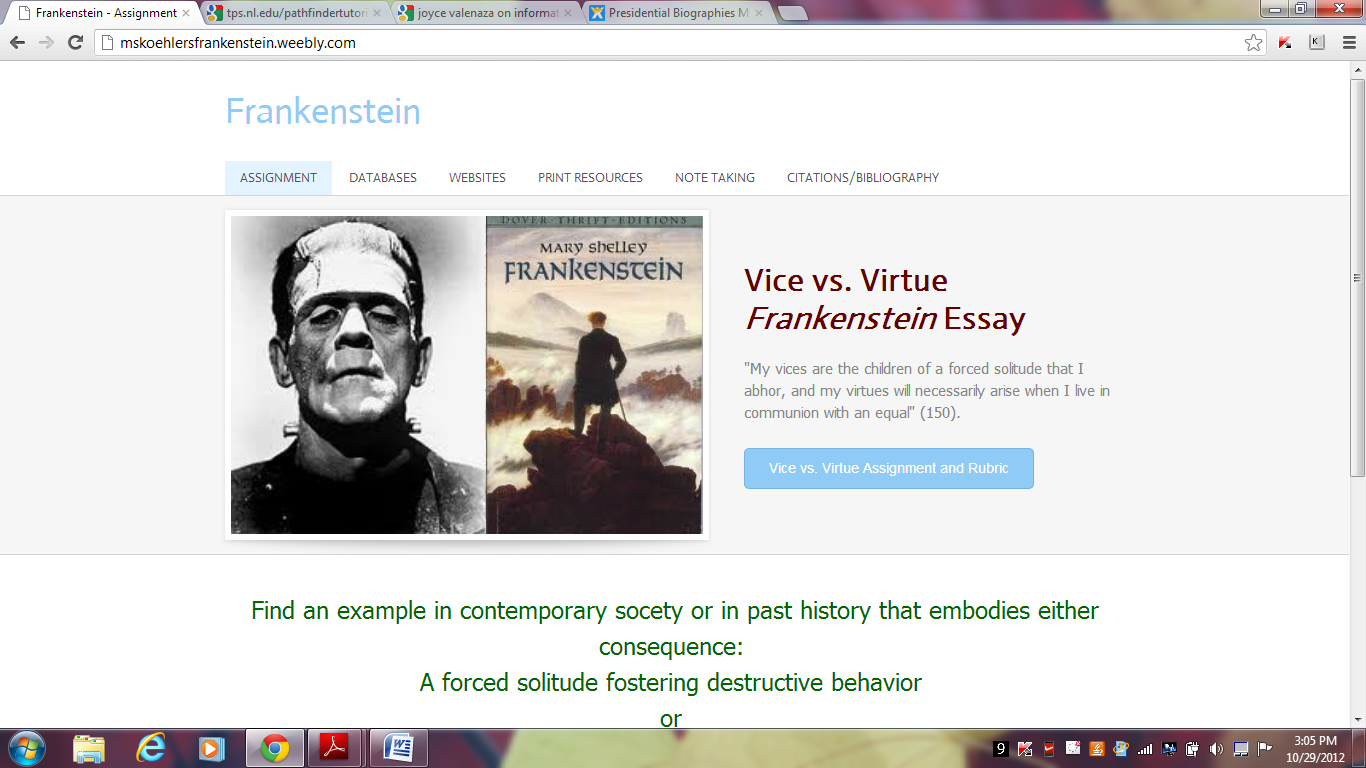
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Use visuals when possible 



Always use the direct url to take students where they need to go

Some helpful resources and examples:



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How to make a pathfinder?

1. The teacher defines the topic and theme
2. Collaboratively the teacher and librarian define the goals/outcomes for the research, both in content and 21st standards
3. Selection of resources
   1. Should be a variety and also diverse
   2. Can be online and “offline”
   3. Easy and accessible
   4. Lists generated should be short
4. Create “paths” for students to access these resources
   1. Provide passwords if needed, key search words they can use, overall guidance for using the sources you chose, use direct URL’s when possible
5. Can use pathfinders to also aid in the citation process, or include rubrics, and the assignment

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